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APR -5 1922

THE CRIMSON CHALLENGE

Photoplay in five reels From the story "Theron of Lost Valley" by

Vingie E. Roe

Adaptation by Beulah Marie Dix -

Directed by Paul Powell

Author of the photoplay (under Sec. 62) Famous Players-Lasky Corporation of the U. S.V

THE CRIMSON CHALLENGE

Lost Valley is a forsaken corner of the cattle country, where primitive border conditions still prevail. Buck Courtrey is the owner of the town saloen and the political boss of the entire valley, the sheriff being only a toolkin his hands.

Jim Last, one of the harried small ranchers, has the courage to stand up against Courtrey, who though married, covets Last's daughter, Tharom. He accosts her on the range and she threatens to tell her dad. Fearing Last's vengeance, Courtrey shoots him in the back from ambush. Last expires in Tharon's arms, but not before she has divined who is his assassin and sworn to kill him with Last's own guns.

She meets Courtrey and tells him to draw and defend himself. He refuses and she weakens. He then sets out to force her to accept his attentions by stealing her cattle and injuring her friends. Theren takes her father's place as leader of the settlers, organizes a vigilance committee and they yow to check Courtrey's

activities.

Courtrey learns from his wife, whom he now seeks to divorce, that Tharon loves Billy, one of her cowpunchers, and he determines to capture Billy and make Tharon come to his terms. Tharon and the vigilantes in a raid, capture some of the stolen cattle, but in a battle Billy is wounded and taken by Courtrey. He sends Tharon word that unless she agrees to marry him, Billy will be tortured to death. She pretends to accept his conditions, intending to double cross him later.

Courtrey's wife tells Tharon where Billy is hidden under guard—in a natural cup, accessible only by one perilous path. She starts with an Indian boy guide to rescue him. Courtrey gets his divorce and on the pronouncement of the verdict by the corrupt judge, the wife dies of heart failure. Her youngest brother, attempting to kill Courtrey, is himself killed and the crowd, at last aroused, turns on Courtrey and his men, who escape, threatening to come back and clean out the town.

Theron rescues Billy after doing away with his murderous guards and arrives in town just in time to be their leader and rally them to make a stand against Courtrey's gang which is just arriving. Defeated, Courtrey starts to make his escape, heading towards the Cup, pursued by Theron, who overtakes the wretch. He tries to trick her and she kills him, then rides back to become the wife of Billy.

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CRIMSON CHALLENGE (5 reels)

Respectfully.

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CRIMSON CHALLENGE

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